



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES**

*60 State Street, Wethersfield, CT 06161*

<http://ct.gov/dmv>



*Testimony of Department of Motor Vehicles Commissioner Melody A. Currey  
Transportation Committee Public Hearing  
February 14, 2011*

**Proposed H.B. 5952**

**AN ACT REDUCING FRAUD AND ABUSE OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE HANDICAP  
PERMIT SYSTEM**

**Proposed S.B. 710**

**AN ACT REPEALING THE RENEWAL REQUIREMENT FOR PARKING PLACARDS  
FOR PERSONS WHO ARE BLIND OR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES THAT LIMIT  
OR IMPAIR THE ABILITY TO WALK**

The Department of Motor Vehicles was charged with making recommendations to the legislature for reducing fraud and abuse of handicapped parking placards. The DMV compiled a report that was comprehensive and favorably received. Certain recommendations in the report were implemented through the passage of legislation in 2009. S.B. 710 seeks to repeal the provisions requiring placard and plate holders to have a license or non-driver identity card, and to renew the placard when the license or identity card was renewed (every 6 years). These provisions allow DMV to track placard holders through their credential numbers, and to assure that placard holders continue to require the use of the placard.

The provisions that were adopted by the legislature in 2009 contemplated a hardship exception process, and DMV has drafted regulations that would permit hardship exceptions. In addition to a hardship exception, the law also permits parents to be nominees for minor children who require a permit.

Section 5952 requires that photographs of the placard holder be placed on the placard. The DMV is unable to absorb the cost associated with this process. There have also been privacy issues raised in connection with this proposal.

The DMV is urging that the reforms that were implemented in 2009 remain intact.